

## ABSTRACT

### PROTECTIVE DEVICE FOR ELECTRIC POWER DISTRIBUTION NETWORK

5

The invention relates to a device (1, 101) for protecting an electrical power distribution network against the overvoltages due, in particular, to a lightning strike, this protective device comprising a first electrode (3) electrically connected to the network to be protected, a second electrode (4) connected to a grounding conductor, and focusing means (5) capable of guiding an electric arc generated between the two electrodes toward a fractionation device (6), said device comprising a casing (2, 102) which accommodates the two electrodes, the focusing means and the fractionation device, this casing being in communication with the outside through at least one discharge channel (7, 107) designed so as to substantially lower the temperature of the gases generated by the formation of the electric arc, characterized in that said at least one discharge channel (7) has at least one change of section.

25